

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
LABOUR
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:2180
ANSWERED ON:08.03.2000
CONSTRUCTION WORKERS
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of LABOUR be pleased to state:

- (a) whether the Government are aware of the disparities in wages of the construction workers in the country; and
- (b) if so, the corrective steps proposed to be taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR LABOUR AND EMPLOYMENT (SHRI MUNI LALL)

(a) & (b): There are variations in wages due to factors such as socio-economic conditions, demand for and supply of labour, cost of living, etc. which differ from State to State. However, in order to ensure uniformity in wages, the Government has been taking several steps. Under the Minimum Wages Act, 1948 both the Central and State Governments are appropriate Governments for fixation/revision of minimum wages for employments in construction sector. There is also provision for Variable Dearness Allowance linked to Consumer Price Index. The Central Government has been issuing guidelines/ instructions from time to time to all the State/UT Governments for reducing the disparities in minimum wages in different States/Regions. There are six Regional Advisory Committees (renamed as Regional Labour Ministers' Conference) working for bringing uniformity in fixing/ revising minimum rates of wages. At national level, a floor level minimum wage of Rs. 45/- per day has been fixed.

In order to secure compliance of provisions under the Act, the enforcement machinery both at Central and State level carry out inspections of employments in their jurisdictions.